

December 5, 2002

Public Notice for 401 Water Quality Certification

**California Department of Transportation
Highway 101 Culvert Rehabilitation at Post Mile 40.67
WDID No. 1B02189WNH**

Humboldt County

On November 26, 2002, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from the California Department of Transportation (CDOT) requesting Federal Clean Water Act, Section 401, Water Quality Certification for the Highway 101 Culvert Rehabilitation Project at Post Mile (PM) 40.67 in Humboldt County. The application was deemed complete on November 27, 2002. The proposed project causes disturbances to waters of the United States associated with Chadd Creek located in the Eel River Hydrologic Unit No. 111.00.

The proposed project is located at a single site along Highway 101 at PM 40.67. The project involves the installation of a new 60-inch culvert using the "jack and bore method". The 60-inch culvert pipe will be placed alongside the existing culvert pipe at a 5% grade. The new inlet will match the current inlet elevation. The cross culvert outlet end will be connected to a down drain section approximately 45 feet above the current ground level. The inlet creek approach will be realigned to match the inlet of the new culvert. The inlet channel will be stabilized with rock slope protection (RSP). The temporary debris rack will be removed, and the existing pipe will be closed off using a pump to jet a water/sand mixture into the void of the pipe. At the outlet, a new downdrain section will be installed. The emergency trench shield will be removed and replaced with a 65-foot rock energy dissipater (RED). Horizontal drains will also be installed at the toe of the roadway fill, near the culvert outlet, to help stabilize and relieve hydrologic pressure on the highway fill slope. Two "riser" outlets will be installed at the existing culvert outlet endwall and stabilization trench outlets. Work will require the use of an excavator to attach the downdrain section, to excavate a pad for RSP, and to place the RED.

The total area of waters of the state to be impacted is 0.04 acre. The project also involves the placement of 184.4 cubic yards of fill.

Compensatory mitigation for this project is not required. Noncompensatory mitigation measures include performing work during the dry season and the implementing construction and post construction Best Management Practices.

CDOT, as the lead agency for this project, has determined this project is categorically exempt pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The project is scheduled to begin June 1, 2003 and be complete by October 1, 2003. Staff is proposing to regulate this project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341). In addition, staff will consider all comments received during a 21-day comment period that begins on the first date of issuance of this letter. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Dayna Lieberman at (707) 576-6712 or at liebd@rb1.swrcb.ca.gov within 21 days of the posting of this notice.